

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 /084 W

----- 068454

R 091700Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7964

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 1347

PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS POSTURE ON MOROCCAN-ALGERIAN DISPUTE

REF: STATE 056699

1. WE NOTE THAT DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN, IN REPLY TO QUESTION AT MARCH 8 BRIEFING, SAID, "SAHARA IS MATTER FOR NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED WITHIN THEIR REGIONAL CONTEXT." THIS FORMULATION, AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, IS AT ODDS WITH GOM POSITION. MOROCCAN POSITION MAINTAINS THAT SAHARA, PER SE, IS NOT NEGOTIABLE. IT IS MOROCCAN TERRITORY, AND ALGERIA MUST CEASE ITS "AGGRESSION" THERE, ACCORDING TO GOM. WORD "CONCERNED" ALSO GIVES GOM PROBLEMS WHEN APPLIED TO ALGERIA, WHICH GOM RELEGATES TO LESSER STATUS OF BEING "INTERESTED" IN SAHARA EQUATION.

2. IN ORDER TO AVOID SEMANTIC WRANGLING WITH GOM, WHILE PRESERVING ESSENTIALS OF OUR POSITION, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT PRESS GUIDANCE BE MODIFIED IN ONE OF TWO WAYS: EITHER (1) REFERENCE TO "NEGOTIATIONS" BE DROPPED, LEAVING "MATTER ONE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE SETTLED BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED," OR (2) POSITION BE

REPHRASED SO THAT "SAHARA" BECOMES "THEIR DIFFERENCES." IN
THIS LATTER FORMULATION, WE WOULD PROBABLY LIVE WITH LEAVING
IN WORD "NEGOTIATIONS" AS MEANS OF SETTling "THEIR DIFFERENCES."
NEUMA
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Film Number: D760090-0643
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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